

THOMPSON GETS U. S. REPORT ON SUBWAY CAVE-IN

Two Experts Learned What P. S. Board's 2,500 Engineers Failed to Discern.

SHORING NOT BRACED.

No Precaution Against Blasts or Sliding Rock in Excavations.

George P. Le Brun, Assistant Clerk of the Coroner's Office was the first witness before the Thompson Committee today.

He said that the Coroner held inquests in October last on the eight deaths in the Seventh Avenue and one in the Broadway cave-ins on Sept. 22 and Sept. 25 last.

The Coroner's Jury found that John W. O'Rourke, one of the victims, came to his death from a fractured skull and fractured ribs, due to the blast in the subway excavation at Seventh Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street; with no one criminally liable. The verdict severely censured the Bureau of Combustibles of the Fire Department for not carrying out, through its inspectors, the powers assigned to it by the Code of Ordinances.

Richard G. Babbage, Vice President and Secretary of the United States Realty and Improvement Company, contractors who were building the Seventh Avenue subway at the time of the cave-in, said there were nine claims for death and ninety for injuries. There was no litigation. The company has paid out about \$170,000 in settling these claims.

COMMISSIONER OF ACCOUNTS TELLS OF INQUIRY.

Leonard M. Wallstein, Commissioner of Accounts of the City of New York, testified about his inquiry last October into the cause of the Seventh Avenue and the Broadway cave-ins. He went into the tunnels three or four times, and he had the aid of twenty engineers.

Mr. Wallstein said that Charles Enzian of the United States Bureau of Mines, Pittsburgh office, called on him and got leave to inspect the scene of the accidents. He arranged with the Police and Fire Departments to aid him.

"Mr. Enzian substantially indorsed the findings of the Mayor's engineers," said Mr. Wallstein. Later he sent the witness a copy of his formal report on the accident, together with comments by Engineer George S. Rice. Mr. Wallstein telegraphed the Bureau of Mines at Washington for leave to publish the reports, and received this reply:

"Enzian and Rice reports made for confidential information of New York authorities and should not be made public."

"B. H. MANNING, Director."

Mr. Wallstein sent a copy of the report to District Attorney Perkins. To Senator Thompson's question, Commissioner Wallstein replied that the information was for the use of the city authorities, as he understood it, though not for publication. Mr. Moss put in evidence a copy of the Enzian and Rice report, which he said he had got from the District Attorney.

CAUSE OF COLLAPSE WAS INADEQUATE SUPPORTS.

Mr. Moss read from the Enzian report:

"The cause of the accidents in the Seventh Avenue and Broadway, in my opinion, was the progressive collapse

of the roadway due to inadequate support beneath the street surface. In Seventh Avenue the impact of stone from a blast was the immediate cause, and in the Broadway accident the impact of rock falling from the side. In both cases the contractor used the cut-and-cover plan of construction, carrying the car tracks and the plank roadways by timber supports. . . .

"There was no cross-bracing in any direction; no fastening between the steel I-beams and the posts above and below them. There was no adequate bracing between the I-beams themselves to prevent overturning. In a word, this timbering consisted of wood and steel loosely connected. Neither above the steel nor below it were there braces to prevent shifting."

"In other words, the knocking out of a single post was enough to cause the collapse of the whole structure. The support in the Seventh Avenue job was different from that in any other part of subway construction except in the Broadway section. . . . The temporary work all toppled over till it reached the permanent steel structure."

NO ADEQUATE SUPPORT TO HOLD ROCK.

"In the Broadway excavation substantially all the faults of the Seventh Avenue construction were here repeated. The rock, Manhattan schist, has characteristics which call for special precautions from day to day to detect faults which would not appear at first. There was no adequate support on the west side, where the rock fell."

Counsel Moss read from the report of Engineer Enzian's testimony before Commissioner Wallstein:

Q. How far did the cutting of a transverse shaft through the rock at Thirty-eighth Street affect the Broadway wall of the cut? A. It was like the removal of an abutment from a cantilever.

Q. If the north wall of the transverse cut had been braced with timbers, would that have prevented the fall of rock? A. If it had been properly braced, yes.

Q. Could timbering to prevent the slide of rock have been used without interfering with the work in subway building? A. Yes, sir.

Joseph O. Hannon, chief of the Bureau of Fire Prevention in the Fire Department, told of the investigation he made into the accident. He had not concerned himself with the matter of supports, but only with the amount of dynamite used. He admitted that rope mats were not used over the blasts in subway construction at the time of the accident, nor are they used yet, in spite of the accident. Mr. Hannon explained that the rope mats were not used over the blasts in subway construction at the time of the accident, nor are they used yet, in spite of the accident.

ENGINEER GIVES THREE CAUSES FOR THE ACCIDENT.

Mr. Moss read from Engineer Rice's comments on Engineer Enzian's report:

"1. The primary cause of the Seventh Avenue accident was blasting."

"2. The main cause was that the timbers collapsed."

"3. The method of timbering was fundamentally defective."

"While two of the blasts were overcharged, had the timbering been properly done with transverse bracing between the I-beams, the collapse would not have occurred."

"In the Broadway accident adequate diagonal braces would have prevented the slide of the western rock wall. Such a slide can be prevented, though once started it cannot be stopped."

Counsel Moss also read the conclusion reached by United States Engineer Enzian as to both accidents:

"The work was done under the supervision and inspection of representatives of the Public Service Commission, but judging from the method of timbering there was no one in charge familiar with the bracing used in mining operations requiring lateral supports."

Counsel Moss asked Chairman Thompson whether the Enzian report, which he had received from the District Attorney, should be put in evidence.

"Put it in," ruled Chairman Thompson.

Chorus Girls' Toes Kick High Drama Out, But Say, Street Competition Is Fierce!



Undress Musical Shows Have Worthy Attractions on the Run, Declares Roland Holt, Drama League Director—Woman Playwright Disagrees, However, Thinking "Leg Shows" Have Too Much Competition in Public Places to Be Profitable.

By Nikola Greeley-Smith.

Does New York think with its feet? Is it possible at all times to buy "any seat in the house" at the box office when a really good play is produced here when you have to pay a speculator \$25 a pair for tickets whenever an undress musical comedy is put on?

Roland Holt, director of the New York branch of the Drama League, told a St. Louis audience last week that "legs and not drama attract the crowds in New York." He also said that the gallery gods have been driven away from the theatre because "problem plays with homely leading ladies have taken the place of plays of action with pretty girls in them."

Do you agree with Mr. Holt? I don't. For why should even the lowest of one-story brawls pay a minimum of \$2 a seat for what he can behold any day, any time, anywhere on the street for nothing?

Moreover, Mrs. Edith Ellis Furness, who knows more about theatrical conditions than I do, since she has written many successful plays, says that Mr. Holt is wrong. But she admits that there is some justification in actual conditions for his point of view.

"There is no real reason for believing that the public demands anything," said the playwright of "The Devil's Garden," "The Seven Sisters" and "Mary Jane's Pa." "The public is well trained and takes what is set before it, on the American plan. It would be very easy for the manager to educate the public away from the so-called leg show and toward the serious drama if he wanted to do it—be a sort of pious paterfamilias, leading them from nonsense to serious things. But he thinks there is less risk in less than in thoughts. I don't agree with him. The American public has been educated to an appreciation of good music, and look what an active propaganda has done for poetry this year!"

To-day we are in the midst of the greatest poetry revival ever known in this country. The theatrical manager could do what the musical manager has done. But he won't take the chance. However, Mr. Holt's indignation that the New York public cares only for the higher priced and vulgarly undressed plays which appeal to the most elemental instincts is disproved by the extraordinary success of George M. Cohan. There is never anything the least bit objectionable in a Cohan Revue.

"If theatres depended upon lack of drapery for their success most of them would have to go into bankruptcy because of the fashions worn by women of all ages in the streets to-day! What musical comedy has anything more daring to offer—what burlesque show would venture to go beyond the exhibit to be seen for nothing whenever a young woman goes out to walk in a young man's shoes? Several inches of flesh-colored stockings are seen above her boot tops. I suppose it was as a result of this amateur competition that managers began to make productions with bare-legged dancers or girls in short skirts."

"Of course, New York has a tremendous foreign population and Continental ideas of stage propriety are not the same as American ideas. So there is a difference in the New York point of view and that of the road. The road simply won't take plays that New York accepts with a snicker. On the other hand, the New York manager must meet the demand of the enormous number of men who come here from all over the country for a good time—men who are respectable deacons at home but who look upon New York as the ideal place for an annual excitement of the most primitive kind."

Such men, it is true, are not the ideal audience for the theatre, but they want to see a theatrical production which does not call for the exercise of intelligence at the moment. Still, I believe that when a really good play is given as much advertising as the "leg show," as Mr. Holt calls it, the good play will just as much patronage from the public."

Still, I objected, "we can't blame all our sins on the out-of-town visitor, you know. The women of New York don't dress for him. And, you know, we like pretty lively looking! In fact, it's the free show provided by our pretty women that makes the manager's problem of 'bitting them in the eye' more and more difficult every year."

"Pretty women are a drug in the market here," Mrs. Furness observed. "But that, too, is because of the out-of-town visitor. Whenever a pretty girl gets too pretty for her home town she peeks her little grip and comes to New York."

At this point I had a vision of the belle of Lankenshaw, Pa., or Shohola, Cross Roads, arriving in New York with a powder puff, a lip stick and a walking stick, and a young man arriving, if we substitute a few male belongings for the powder puff, set of hair and the walking stick, and a young man arriving in a bag of catnip, which he cooks over a gas jet, such is the horror of going into debt for food. But the young heroine's first purchase is more likely to be a couple of pairs of silk stockings, and, having cut high heels out of the hem of her skirt, she goes out to take the town.

"Of course," I remarked, in contrast, Mrs. Furness's pleasant theory that it's the out-of-town patron who demands the leg show, "we must concede that a good leg is better worth seeing on the stage than a bad play. Legs are more plentiful than brains." (Light how I want to tell the reader who asked at the word "leg" that the director of the Drama League introduced the subject, not I, and that the moral torpedoes, if there is any, belong to the out-of-town patron because in the interest of decency I cannot. The reader with a nice sense of language might think I

was talking about an arm of a tree or a limb of Satan. With this apology, let us proceed.

"Yes," said Mrs. Furness, "it is true that more people have good legs than good brains."

"Oh, every woman has good legs," I answered. "Don't you know there is no more so ancient that she does not take a secret pride in her nether symmetry? (Isn't that a deliciously proper expression?) At least it WAS a secret pride till the short skirts came in. Now, I suppose, we might call it public spirit. As a matter of fact, nearly every woman has good legs, only so many of them are put on upside down."

"But many brains are put on upside down too," Mrs. Furness said. "And after all, the poor theatrical manager has to take all these things into account. Don't let's be too hard on him. Suppose we leave his fate to the implacable 'movies'."

PHILIPPINE BILL UP FOR PASSAGE IN HOUSE

Fight for Clarke Amendment Giving Freedom in Four Years—Night Session Probable.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—On the eighteenth anniversary of the Battle of Manila Bay the Philippine independence bill was taken up to-day in the House by unanimous consent. The debate began under an agreement between Democrats and Republicans for eight hours, providing that at the conclusion of general debate at the Clarke amendment for independence within four years shall be taken up for a vote first of all.

Defending the Clarke amendment, Representative Jones, author of the bill, declared that the choice proposed to the Senate was between a vague, indefinite, meaningless and almost inconceivable proposition and an honest effort to redeem the solemn promises of the Democratic Party. Jones pleaded with the Republicans to support the bill, because, he said, "I know that who is likely to be the next President candidate of the Republican Party" had approved Philippine independence.

THE RED PIPER-MANAGER CAN DRAW THE PUBLIC FROM THE HIGH SHIRTS TO THE HIGH-BROW SHOW

THE TIED-BUSINESS-MAN CAN'T THINK WITHOUT HIS FEET UP ON HIS DESK

WHAT LOW-BROW SHOW WILL I TAKE IN TONIGHT??

THE PRETTY GIRL WHO LEAVES THE BATH FOR THE CITY

PHASE PRETTY GIRL ON THE MARKET

THE CHILDREN OF SOCIALISTS, TO THE NUMBER OF ABOUT 1,000, CELEBRATED MAY DAY IN THEIR OWN WAY IN SULZER'S HARLEM RIVER PARK TO-DAY.

ABOUT 300 YOUNGSTERS OF ALL AGES AND SIZES, WITH A BAND AND ONE AMERICAN FLAG AND 300 RED ONES, LEFT ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-NINTH STREET AND BERGEN AVENUE, THE BRONX, AT 11 O'CLOCK AND MARCHED TO HARLEM, WHERE OTHER BUILDING SOCIALISTS JOINED THEM. ACCOMPANYING THE LITTLE ONES WERE THEIR PARENTS. THE BOYS WORE RED TIES AND THE GIRLS RED SASHES AND RED RIBBONS IN THEIR HAIR.

THE ELDERS CARRIED RED RIBBONS ON WHICH, IN LETTERS OF GOLD, BLAZED THE LEGEND: "WE WANT PEACE." THE CELEBRATION WAS FOR ITS PRIMAL OBJECT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNIVERSAL LABOR DAY AND THE ENDING OF THE WAR IN EUROPE.

ARMY OF 180,000 MEN IS CONGRESS PLAN NOW

Agreement Practically Reached on Peace Strength—War Force Would Be 250,000.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—A regular army of 180,000 men at peace strength has practically been agreed upon by Senate and House conferees on the army bill. With the plans for expansion as provided in the bill which has passed the Senate, this would produce an army of about 250,000 men in war strength.

The bill as it passed the Senate fixed the peace strength at 250,000 men.

GO TO JAIL FOR SMOKING IN FACTORIES

Charges against forty-seven smokers in factories were heard to-day before Magistrate Appleton in Municipal Term Court. Forty-one were sent to the Tombs to serve two-day sentences. Two bosses were given the alternative of paying a \$50 fine or serving five days in jail. One boss, who had been fined \$25 for the same offense, was sentenced to four days in jail. The judge said that the law was intended to prevent a repetition of a T. A. single fire.

WIFE LOSES AN SULT'S REVERAL

An alleged truth about Mrs. Margaret M. Moran in respecting the divorce suit brought by her husband, Ralph Moran, a lawyer, who was awarded a divorce by default. In spite of the fact that she appeared and defended herself at the hearing, which took place before Judge J. Edgar Smith, Judge J. Edgar Smith found her guilty of marital wrongdoings with an unnamed man. When the default was entered against Mrs. Moran, three weeks ago, she was ill at home with an alleged fever. When this was explained to Judge Smith he directed the verdict.

ARRESTED AT HIS BATH.

Joseph I. Price of Knoxville, Tenn., was taken from his bath at the Ritz more at noon to-day and locked up on a charge of forgery. Samuel I. Kepke, a jeweler of No. 225 Fifth Avenue, had complained to the police that last Saturday a well-dressed and softly speaking young man had purchased from him a \$25 watch which had a certified check on the Guarantee Trust Company, which later proved to be a forgery.

The Cadillac Automobile Company had also complained of selling a \$3,000 car to a well-dressed and soft-spoken young man, who presented a certified check that was equal in value to a \$100 one-dollar bill. The handwriting on the check resembled that of Price, who was recently released from the Kings County Jail, where he served a sentence for forgery.

Price said that some time ago he married a moving picture actress and that she left him. Since the divorce, he says, he has been drinking heavily and cannot account for his actions.

PROFIT-SHARING BUSINESS FOR SCHULTE

A profit-sharing contract designed to give each salesman an opportunity to add to his salary was put into operation in all the Schulte signs above to-day. Each salesman will receive a bonus based on the total sales for April. The bonus will be calculated on the basis of the total sales for April. The bonus will be calculated on the basis of the total sales for April. The bonus will be calculated on the basis of the total sales for April.

GOOD FOOD DESERVES A GOOD SAUCE

It is both wise and economical to buy the best meats, fish and vegetables. Do them justice by using the quality sauce.

LEA & PERRINS SAUCE

The only original Worcestershire Sauce. Send postal for free kitchen hanger containing 100 new recipes. LEA & PERRINS, Hulton Street, New York City.

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FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON NEW RIVERSIDE PLAN BRINGS OUT PROTESTS

Association Complains Railroad Burial Scheme Will Kill All the Trees.

The first of a series of hearings on the plan calling for the burial of the New York Central Railroad tracks at Riverside Park and the elevation of the tracks south of Fifty-ninth Street, began to-day in City Hall before the Board of Estimate. Taxpayers' and civic organizations were well represented. The West End Association filed the first protest. Speaking for that organization, John C. Coleman said:

"We are advised that in Riverside Park the treatment contemplated under the carrying out of the plan would mean the removal of about two-thirds of existing trees, bushes and shrubbery from Seventy-second to One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Street in the park section. We are also advised that the new railroad lines to be built eastward of the present right of way will require the excavation of a strip averaging 100 feet in width, and that it will be several years before even the two-foot surface, consisting largely of a bridge path can be restored over the roof of the new tracks."

Miles M. Dawson, who said he appeared for a conference of the City Club and other civic bodies, endorsed the plan in some respects but criticized it in others. For instance, Mr. Dawson thought there should be four feet of soil over the proposed tunnel roof in Riverside Park instead of the contemplated two feet.

"There should also be proper provisions made for the use of the tracks by other railroads," said Mr. Dawson.

The Rev. James T. Raywood, rector of the Church of the Guardian Angel, said that according to the proposed plan provision was made for the removal of the tracks 100 feet west of Tenth Avenue. If this were done, he declared, it would destroy the church property.

Assemblyman McMillan corroborated the priest's complaint. Stanley M. Isaacs declared that in the committee's plan no evidence appeared for any plan for the treatment of the district between One Hundred and Thirty-fifth and One Hundred and Forty-fifth Streets. Mr. McMillan declared that it was not considered in the written report, because the agreement was one between the city and the railroad, and that had nothing to do with the parking. That was distinctly a city proposition, according to the Comptroller, who commented very pointedly on the fact that there is no park there now.

The hearings will be held every day for an indefinite period.

SAFETY FIRST TRAIN OFF; INSPECTED BY WILSON

President Believes Government Exhibit on Wheels Will Be Instructive to Nation.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—The Government's "safety first" special train left to-day for Philadelphia, the first stopping place on an educational tour that will take it through all parts of the country. Twelve steel cars carried hundreds of exhibits illustrative of the methods employed by the Federal Government in saving human life and property both at sea and on land. All of the executive departments which deal with this work were represented.

The President and Mrs. Wilson and members of the Cabinet inspected the train before it started. The President examined closely many of the exhibits and expressed the opinion that the exhibition would do much to inform the people what the Government was doing to prevent accidents.

BERNSTORFF MAY DROP DEMAND FOR IGEL PAPERS

Belief Growing in Washington That Ambassador Will Not Press for Return.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—An impression that was near a certainty grew in official circles here to-day that German Ambassador von Bernstorff will evince no more interest in the papers seized when Wolf von Igel was arrested as a plotter in New York. The Ambassador refuses to have the subject broached to him.

Officials to-day admitted they have made all plans for prosecutions of certain German plot cases to include use of some of the papers seized in von Igel's office. Certain of the papers seized upon recommendation from the State Department, will be kept secret.

NO VOTE YET ON BRANDEIS.

Committee Again Fails to Agree—May Act Next Monday.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—Efforts to get a vote in the Senate Judiciary Committee to-day on the nomination of Louis D. Brandeis for the Supreme Court failed again, and the committee adjourned after several hours debate until Wednesday. It was announced, however, that next Monday the committee probably would agree on a time for a vote and that it might be taken that day.

Republican Senators urged a vote at once. Several Democrats wanted to wait because of the absence of senator Shields of Tennessee.

CHICAGO Teachers Win.

CHICAGO, May 1.—The Appellate Court of Illinois to-day upheld a decision of the Superior Court granting a temporary injunction to Chicago school teachers against the Board of Education, restraining it from enforcing the law rule barring them from membership in the Chicago Teachers' Federation.

Tomorrow, Tuesday, May 2nd

Hundreds of Suits in This May Sale

\$16.75 Reduced from Several Higher Prices

SO inclusive in styles and fabrics it may well be called a census of Spring suit fashions. Were the reduced price \$25 instead of

\$16.75, you would still consider it an unusual achievement of the city's most unusual shop.

All the Paris twills and blue serges—the checks and plaids—the tweeds and Spring velours—with the latest fancy silk linings.

The most recent of authentic models, characterized by that youthful spirit which is this Spring's mark of correctness.

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Poslam and Poslam Soap Work Wonders On Any Affected Skin

ECZEMA Is Quickly Healed. COMPLEXIONS Are Cleared Overnight. PIMPLES and Blemishes Banished.

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Poslam puts a stop to itching at once, and its readiness in healing small surfaces is evidence of its rapid action in the eradication of All Eczemas, Acne, Tetter, Salt Rheum, Barbers' Itch, Scalp Sores, in short, every surface skin affection. So exhaustively has the merit of Poslam been proven and so uniform in its work of healing under all conditions, that no one suffering any Skin Trouble can afford to ignore its benefits.

Poslam Soap is an aid to health of Skin and Hair. Superior for daily use; Toilet, Bath, Shampooing.

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For FREE SAMPLE of Poslam, send THIS COUPON and send to Emergency Laboratories, 21 W. 25th St., New York. Send Free Sample of Poslam to

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